(a) whether it is a fact that due to some irate armymen including a Captain rail services on the 30th July, 1993 in Jammu and Pathankot sections of the Northern Railways were suspended causing hardships to the passengers; and

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard and action taken by Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K. C. LENKA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) On 30-7-93 at about 14.35 hrs. an army officer of 49 Regiment Light Infantry, a passenger of Gorakhpur Express approached on duty Assistant Station Master, Jammu Tawi for luggage trolly. The Assistant Station Master informed him that the trollies were available downstairs. There was some altercation between them. The army officer used foul language. Meanwhile about 40-50 military personnel available at the platform gathered at the spot. The Army personnel went on rampage and caused extensive damage to railway properties. They pelted stones at Railway employees who gathered there, injuring four of them. On receipt of the information Senior Railway, Military, Civil and Police Officials reached the site and brought the situation under control.

The army officer was handed over to Core of Military Police. Meanwhile, the Railway staff went on strike which was called off at 21.10 hrs. The Government Railway Police, Jammu Tawi registered a case u/s 332, 452, 147, 148 and 427 IPC vide FIR No. 7/93. The army authorities have also deployed six personnel from the Core of Military Police each in three shifts at Jammu Tawi Station from 1-8-93.

Losses suffered by Railways

4113. SHRI MOHINDER SINGH LATHER :
SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Railways have suffered a revenue loss of crores of rupees in the first quarter of the current financial year;

(b) if so, the estimated revenue loss suffered by the Railways;

(c) the areas in which the loss has been suffered stating the reasons; and

(d) the steps contemplated by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K. C. LENKA): (a) and (b) There has been a shortfall of Rs. 232.13 crores as compared to the target.

(c) and (d) The shortfall in revenue earnings mainly pertains to Goods traffic and is attributable to less offerings of traffic from the core sectors. Aggressive marketing strategies, tri-partite discussions with important users of transport and their coordination with concerned Ministries are being resorted to for improving the position.

Facility of Pantry Car in Mangala Express Train

4114. DR. SANJAYA SINH : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state ;

(a) whether it is a fact that a new train 2617/2618 Mangala Express from Hazrat Nizamuddin to Mangalore has recently been introduced.

(b) whether it is also a fact that this train which takes about 54 hours to reach Mangalore has no facility of Pantry Car which is a minimum facility required for the convenience of Passengers in such long distance trains;

(c) if so, by when Government propose to operate a Pantry Car in this train; and

(d) if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K. C. LENKA): (a) to (d) 2617/2618 Mangala Express has been introduced from 1-7-93 between Hazrat Nizamuddin and Mangalore. While it is planned to provide a Pantry Car on this service, the same has not been found feasible for the present due to acute shortage of Pantry Cars. In the meanwhile the catering requirements of the passengers are suitably met from the static catering units enroute.

Wages Escalation claim of CMS Crossings

4115. MAULANA OBAIDULLAH KHAN AZMI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether his ministry has withdrawn the letter in respect of wages escalation claim in respect of C. S. crossings written to Ministry of Finance, cost account branch;

(b) who was responsible for writing this letter and what action has been taken against him;

(c) what are the details of the report of the